ISSN 0712-7774

AARDVARK-VANAHEIM PRESENTS

CEREBUS

70 JAN

2.00 CANADA
1.70 IN U.S.

FINE

as it ever was

A Note from the Publisher

This is probably the most difficult editorial I've ever written. What I have to say is, probably, not all that earth-shaking to any of you. When I told you of Dave and my separation I promised I wouldn't let it effect **Cerebus.** Both Dave and I have worked hard to keep that promise. But there comes a time when you must admit that changes occur in people. That time has come for me. In April I will be starting my own company, Renegade Press. Since I know you will ask why, all I can say again is that people change. Where once Dave and I agreed on many things, we no longer do. **Cerebus** will continue to be the focal point of Aardvark-Vanaheim, just as it should be. **Neil the Horse, normalman, Flaming Carrot** and **M s. Tree** will be coming to Renegade Press with me, when I start it up after my move to Los Angeles this spring. Actually, starting this month, (if my logo gets to the printers in time) the January through March issues of those titles going with me will be joint publications of Aardvark-Vanaheim and Renegade Press. With preparations underway for my departure, Dave has begun a few changes in **Cerebus.** One of them is that next issue is the last UNIQUE story. The feature will be dropped from the book and Cerebus will return to 24 pages. Also - this is my final editorial in this book. I never guessed that saying good-bye to people I've never met could be so hard. But it is. I've written and re-written this editorial for several weeks, unsatisfied. I awoke this morning (Christmas morning) with the whole thing written in my head. So the time has come for good-byes. Actually, for many of you (I hope) this is only good-bye from these pages. I will continue to share thoughts with you in the other titles that go to Renegade. For those that this doesn't hold true, I will miss you.

Deni

CEREBUS

VOL. 1 NO. 70 JAN. 1985

President: Dave Sim

Publisher: Deni Loubert

Assistant to the Publisher: Karen McKiel

Cover Separations: Mark Spencer

Circulation: 21,000

Distributors:
Bud Plant Inc.
P.O. Box 1886
Grass Valley, CA 95945

Glenwood Distribution
124 Vandalia Street
Collinsville, IL 62234

Capital City Distributors
2827 Perry Street
Madison, WI 53713

Diamond Comics Distributors Inc.
1720 Belmont Ave.
Bay B - 2
Baltimore, MD 21207

Styx Comic Service
Box 3791, Stn. B
Winnipeg, Man., Canada
R2W 3R6

Now & Then Books
90 Queen St. South
Kitchener, Ontario, Canada
N2G 1V9

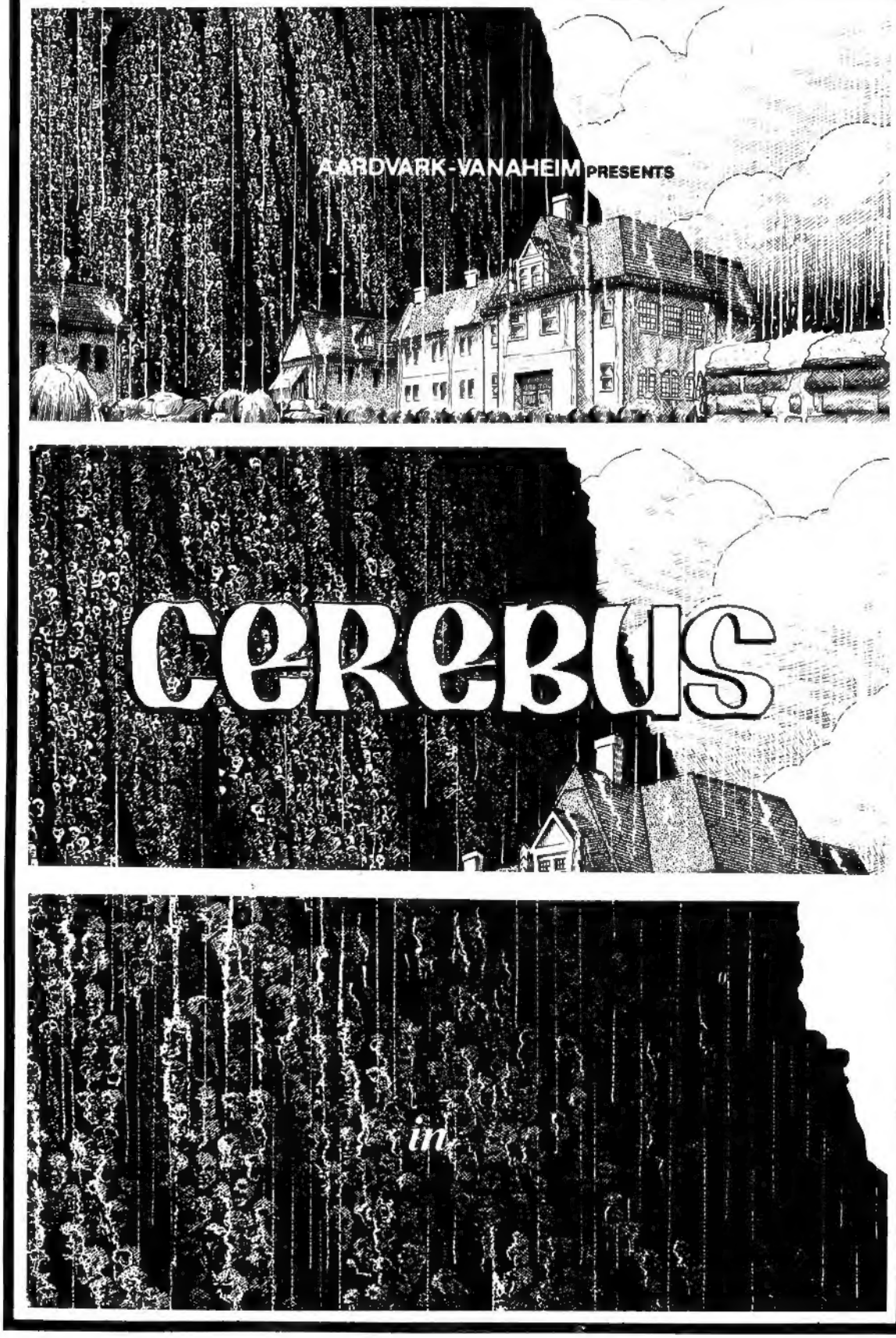
Andromeda Publications
367 Queen St. W.
Toronto, Ontario Canada
M5V 2A4

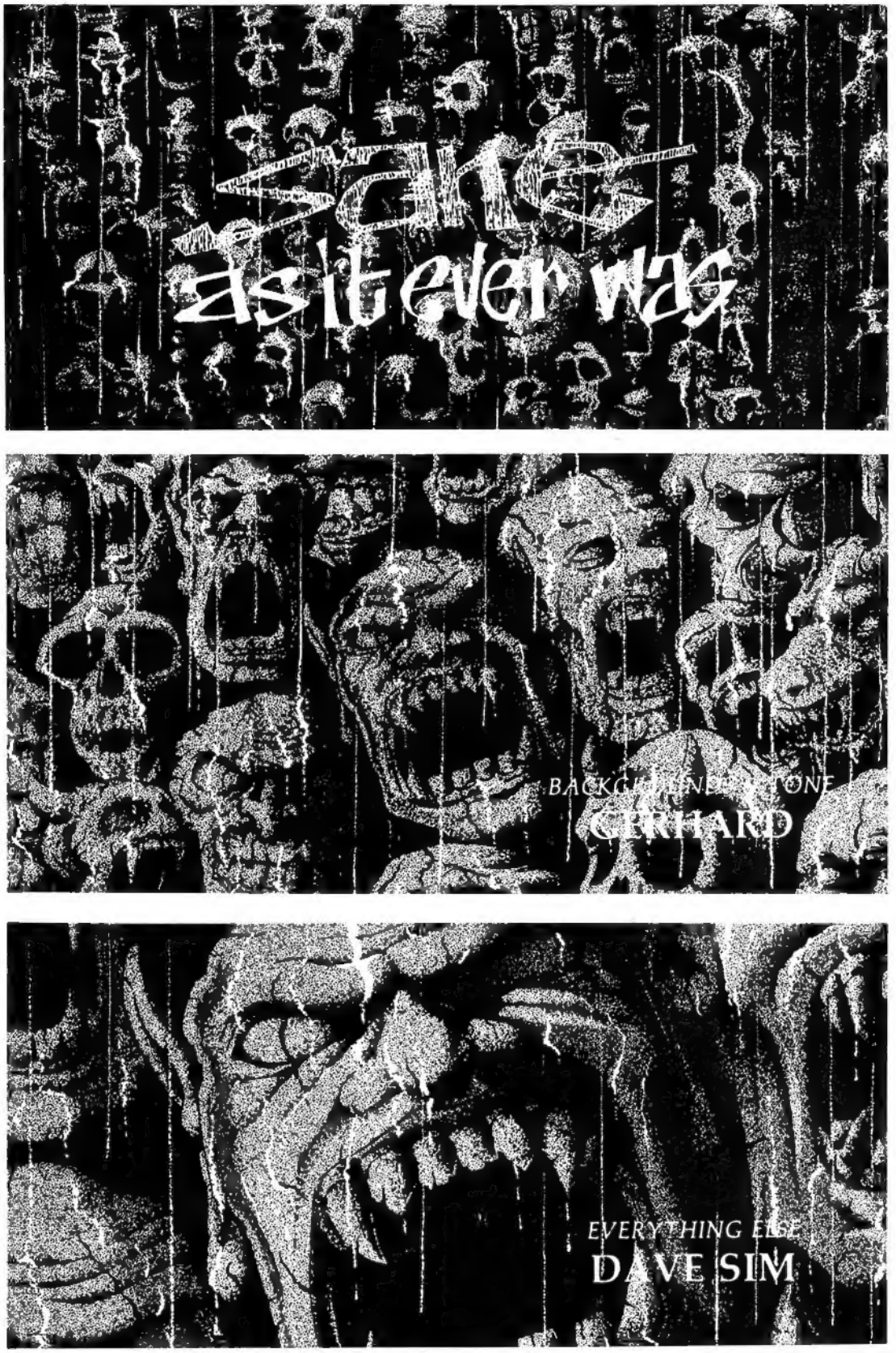
Titan Distributors
P.O. Box 250
London, E3 4RT England

CEREBUS THE AARDVARK is published fifteen times a year by Aardvark-Vanaheim Inc., P.O. Box 1674 Station 'C', Kitchener, Ontario, Canada N2G 4R2, including three "Swords of Cerebus" in winter, spring and fall.

All Contents © 1985 Dave Sim. Any inquiries regarding use of the characters, images, or situations depicted should be addressed to Deni Loubert. No unauthorized reproduction allowed except for review or other Journalistic purpose.

Advertising rates furnished on request. Printed in Canada by Preney Print and Litho Inc., Windsor, Ontario.


AARDVARK-VANAHEIM PRESENTS
CEREBUS
in


as it ever was
BACKGROUND TONE
GERHARD
EVERYTHING ELSE
DAVE SIM

PUFF
PUFF
PUFF

PUFF
PUFF
PUFF
PUFF
PUFF
PUFF
..DON'T GET MAD AT AN ELF....
PUFF
..DON'T...
PUF
...GET MAD AT...
PUF-PUFF
PUFF
AN ELF
PUFF

PUFF
..DON'T GET...
PUFF
PUFF
...DON'T GET MAD...
PUFF
PUFF
PUFF
..AT AN....
PUFF
..ELF....

BOY! ARE YOU EVER SLOW!

DO'D-GED-BAD-AD-A-ELF--!
DO'D-GED-BAD-AD-A-ELF!

HOW BUCH FURDER IS IO, ELF?

YOU SHOULD BE HERE BY NOW...

MAYBE IF YOU TRIED CLIMBING THE STEPS *TWO* AT A TIME...

PUFF
PUFF

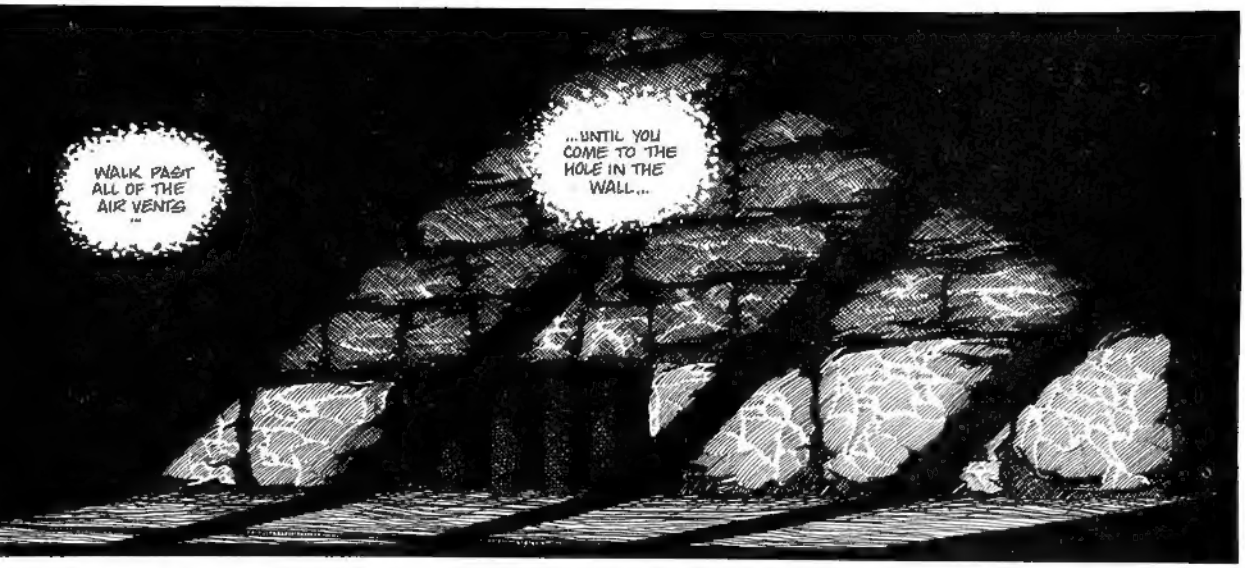
DON'T GET MAD AT AN

PUFF
TARIM.

OGAY. DOW WHADE
WHERE ARE YOUZ
BOST HOLY DUST CABE T'ROUGH — A DOOR...
DID IT HAVE A CIRCLE OR A SQUARE ON IT?
A CIRGLE.
OKAY. THAT MEANS YOU'RE ONE FLOOR BELOW THE KITCHEN.

NOW, WALK THROUGH THE HOLE, TURN RIGHT, AND KEEP WALKING...
ID'S DARG ID HERE ...
NOW, KEEP WALKING UNTIL YOU REACH A RAISED PART IN THE FLOOR...

BOST HOLY CA'D SEE! HOW ID HE GOI'G TO FI'D A...
TRIP!
OGAY.
NOW FEEL AROUND FOR A LITTLE HANDLE


WALK PAST ALL OF THE AIR VENTS ...
...UNTIL YOU COME TO THE HOLE IN THE WALL...

AND WHEN YOU FIND IT...

YOU PULL IT ALL THE WAY TO THE RIGHT

BUT BE VERY CAREFUL, OKAY?
AH!

BECAUSE IT OPENS A TRAP DOOR ...

OWOSE.
NOW JUMP DOWN CAREFULLY ONTO THE BIG PILLOW.

DO YOU SEE IT?
BIG BILLOW. RIGHD.

NOW, YOU WALK STRAIGHT AHEAD...

THERE'S A SHORT HALLWAY KIND OF THING ON YOUR LEFT THAT YOU TURN DOWN

AND JUST WHEN YOU GET THERE ...

SMAT!

THERE'S A LOOSE FLOORBOARD THAT YOU *MUSN'T* STEP ON...

...JUST STAY CLOSE TO THE *WALL*...

AND YOU *SHOULD* SEE WOODEN STEPS THAT GO ALL THE WAY UP HERE TO THE *FIFTH* FLOOR...

STEBS, WHY ID BOST HOLY DOT PURBRISED?

WHAT?

DUTHING.

WHEN YOU GET UP HERE, THE DOOR IS AT THE BACK OF THE LINEN CLOSET ...

DO YOU REMEMBER THE LINEN CLOSET? THE ONE DOWN THE *HALL*?

ANYWAY, THE DOOR'S AT THE BACK OF THE...

OH! I ALMOST FORGOT.

REMEMBER TO COUNT THE STEPS ON YOUR WAY UP...

STEPS THIRTY-EIGHT AND THIRTY-NINE ARE HINGED AND THEY DROP DOWN IF YOU PUT ANY WEIGHT ON THEM

BOUNCE!

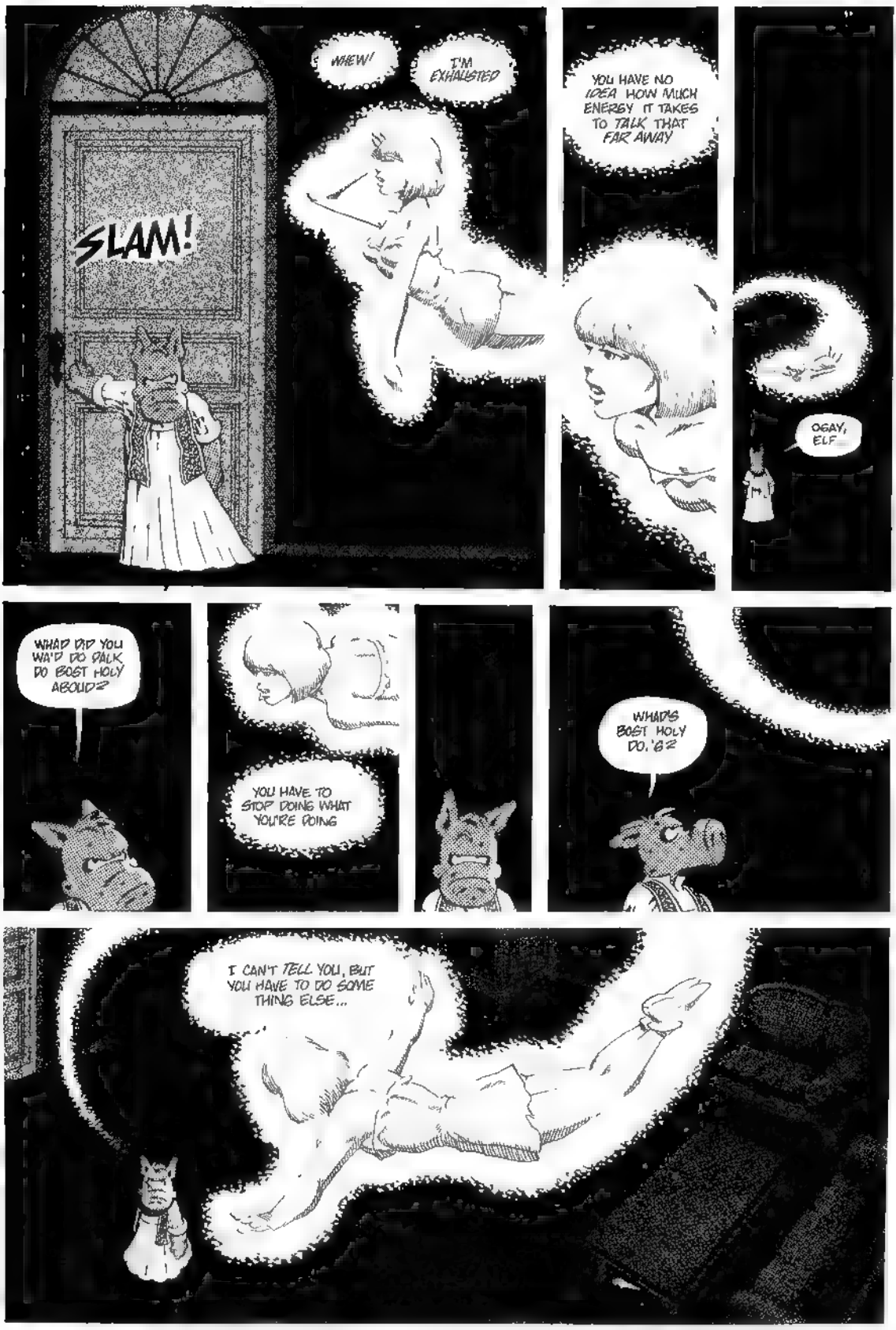
BOUNCE!

BOUNCE!

BOUNCE

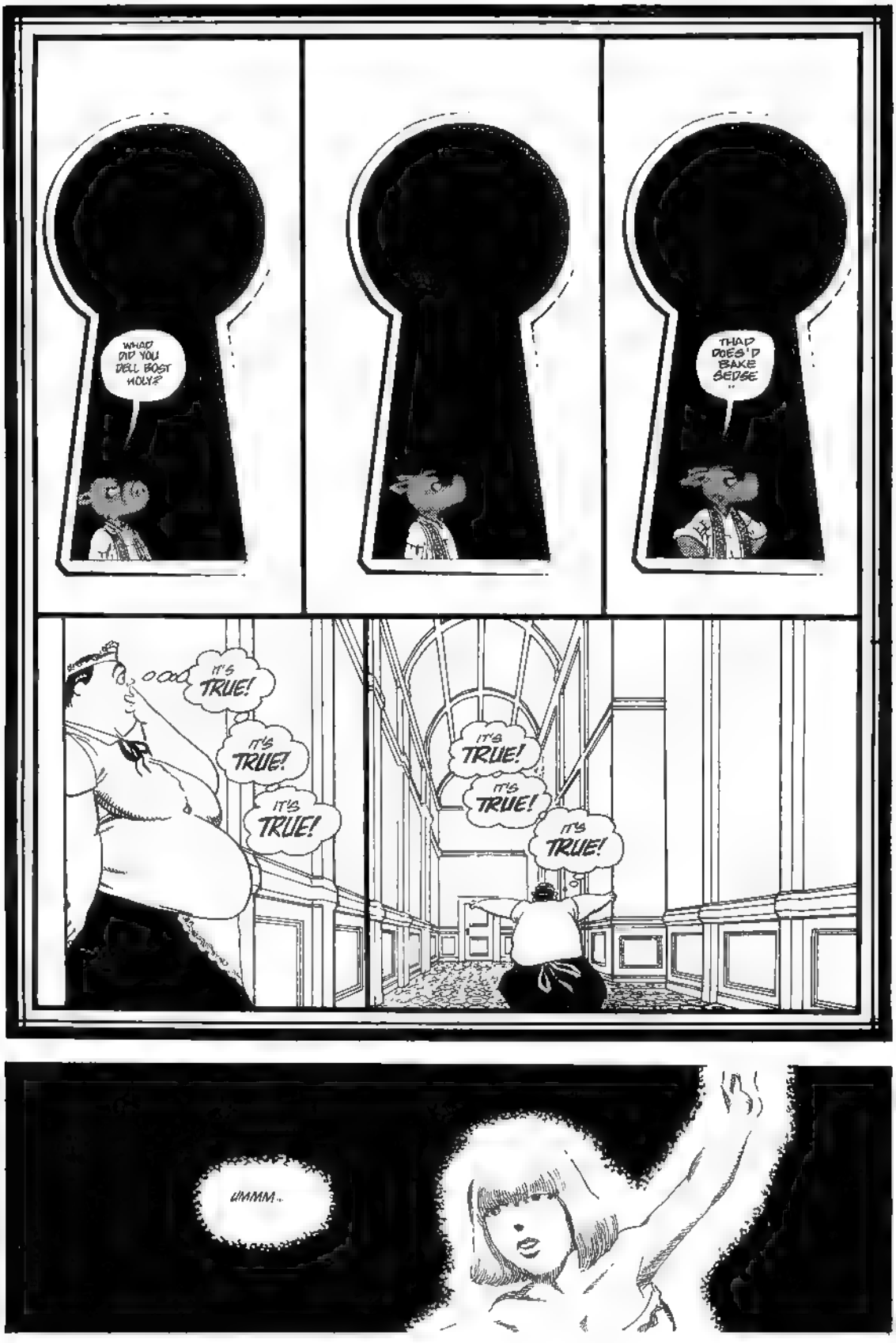
HOUSEKEEPING
KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING IN HERE?!
NOW, MR. BOLLEN YOU KNOW THE RULES. FRESH LINENS EVERY DAY...
BUT I'M TAKING A NAP!
I WON'T BE A MINUTE.
PUT ME DOWN!
STRAIGHTEN STRAIGHTEN
FLUFF FLUFF
TUCK TUCK
THERE NOW. THAT WASN'T SO BAD NOW WAS IT?
YOU STUPID GREAT LUMP I WAS TAKING A NAP!!
MISTER BOLLEN. IF YOU WOULD SLEEP AT NIGHT LIKE FIT AND DECENT PEOPLE DO, YOU WOULD FIND YOUR OUTLOOK WOULD BE MUCH IMPROVED...
GET OUT OF HERE! OUT! OUT!!
AND! IF YOU CAN'T CONDUCT YOURSELF AS A GENTLEMAN I'M AFRAID I SHALL HAVE TO LEAVE!
SLAM

TARIB.
BOST HOLY ID FIDALLY HERE
TARIM!!?
TARIM!!? IT CAN'T BE! THERE'S SOME MISTAKE!!
HE MUST HAVE SAID SOMETHING ELSE!
OPED NA DOOR
CLIK CLAK

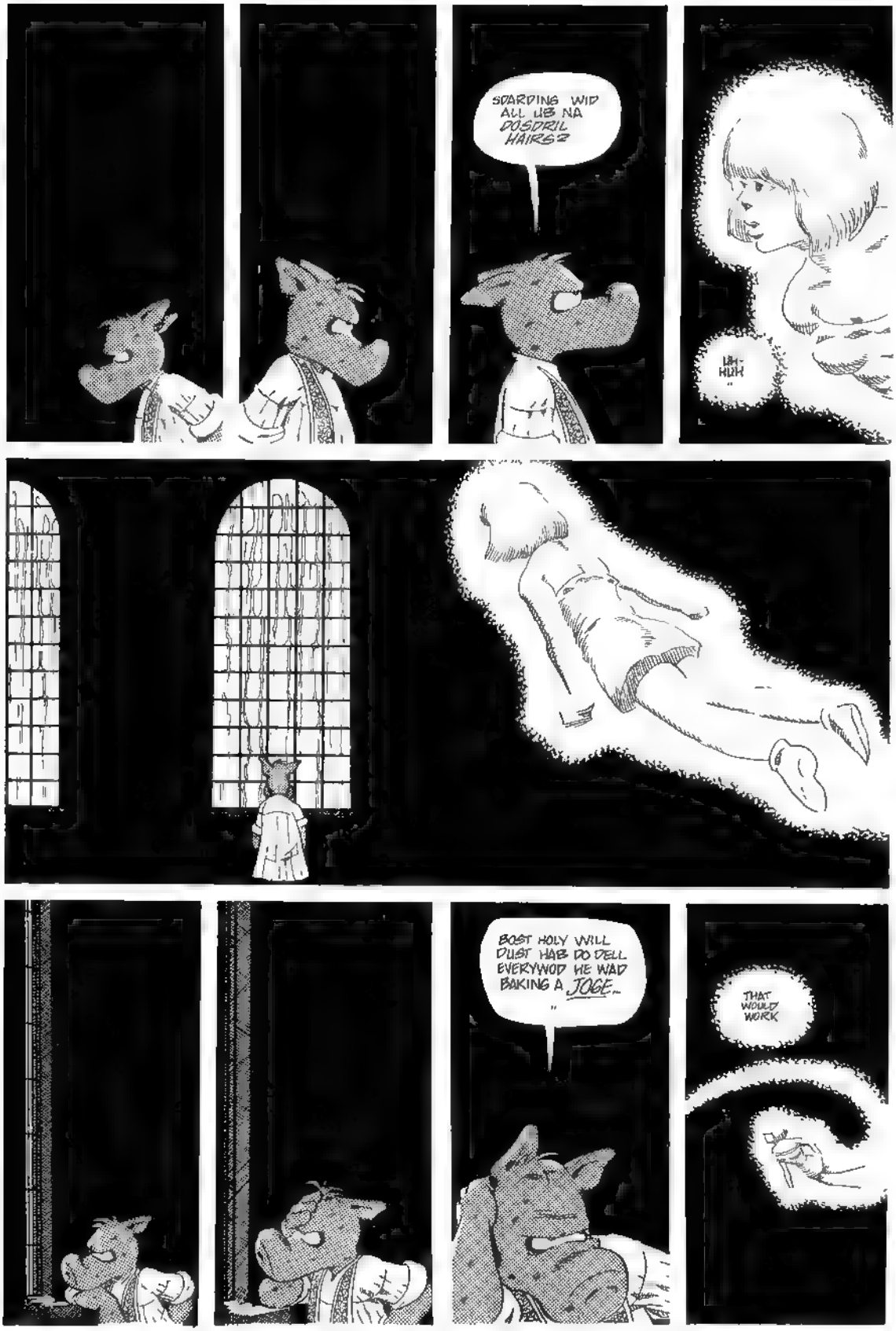

SLAM!
WHEW!
I'M EXHAUSTED
YOU HAVE NO IDEA HOW MUCH ENERGY IT TAKES TO TALK THAT FAR AWAY
OKAY, ELF
WHAD DID YOU WA'D DO DALK DO BOST HOLY ABOUD?
YOU HAVE TO STOP DOING WHAT YOU'RE DOING
WHAD'S BOST HOLY DO, '62
I CAN'T TELL YOU, BUT YOU HAVE TO DO SOME THING ELSE...

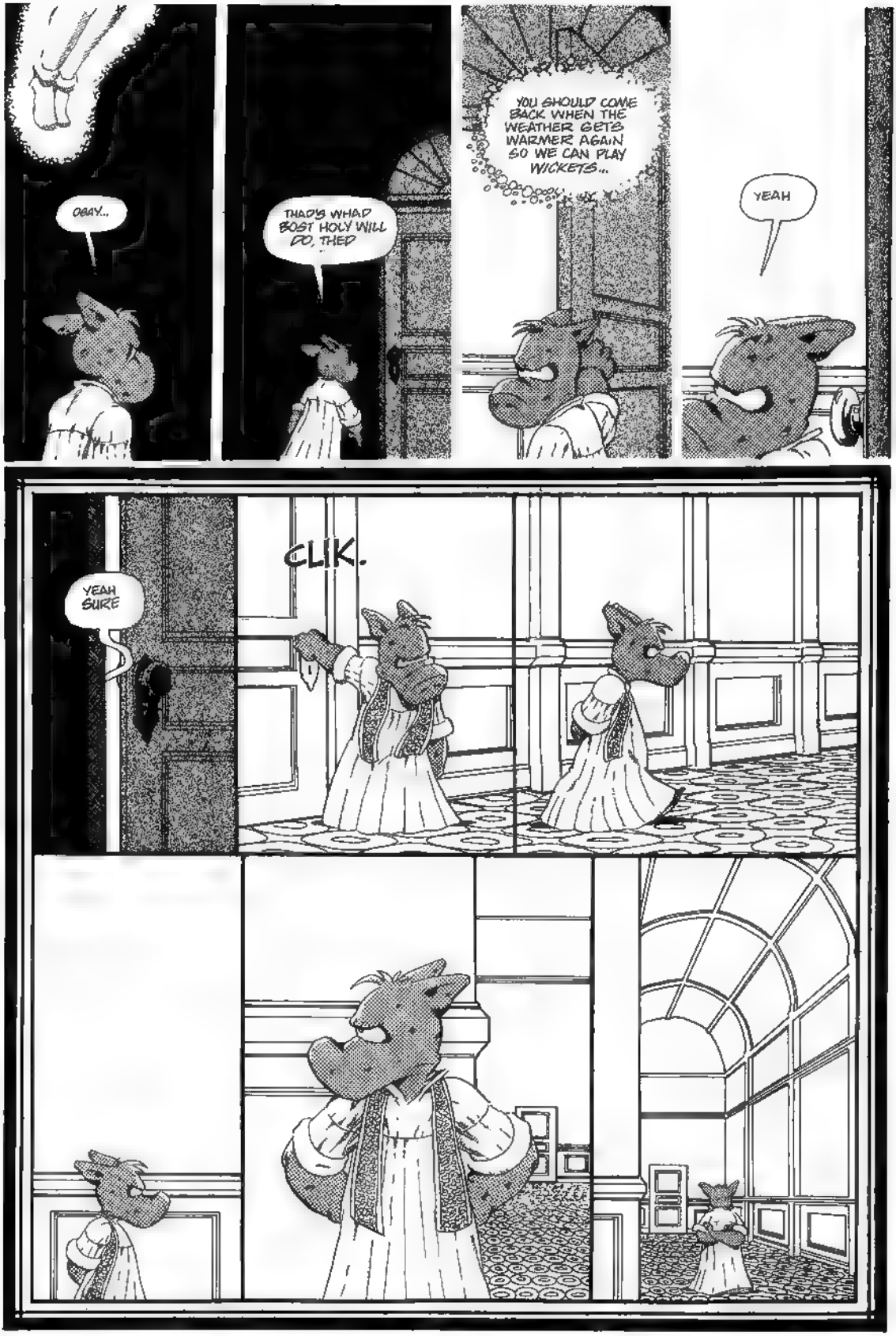
LIKE WHAT?
I CAN'T TELL YOU
WHY?
I CAN'T TELL YOU THAT EITHER
WHY NOT?
BECAUSE! IF I TOLD YOU WHY NOT THEN YOU'D KNOW WHY AND IF YOU KNEW WHY YOU'D KNOW LIKE WHAT AND THEN YOU'D STOP DOING WHAT YOU'RE DOING AND DO SOMETHING ELSE THAT WASN'T THE WHAT ELSE THAT YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE DOING...
WHAD'S BOST HOLY DUBBOSED DO BE DOI'G?
WHATEVER YOU WANT!
EXCEPT WHAT YOU'RE DOING
BOST HOLY ID LEAVI'G..

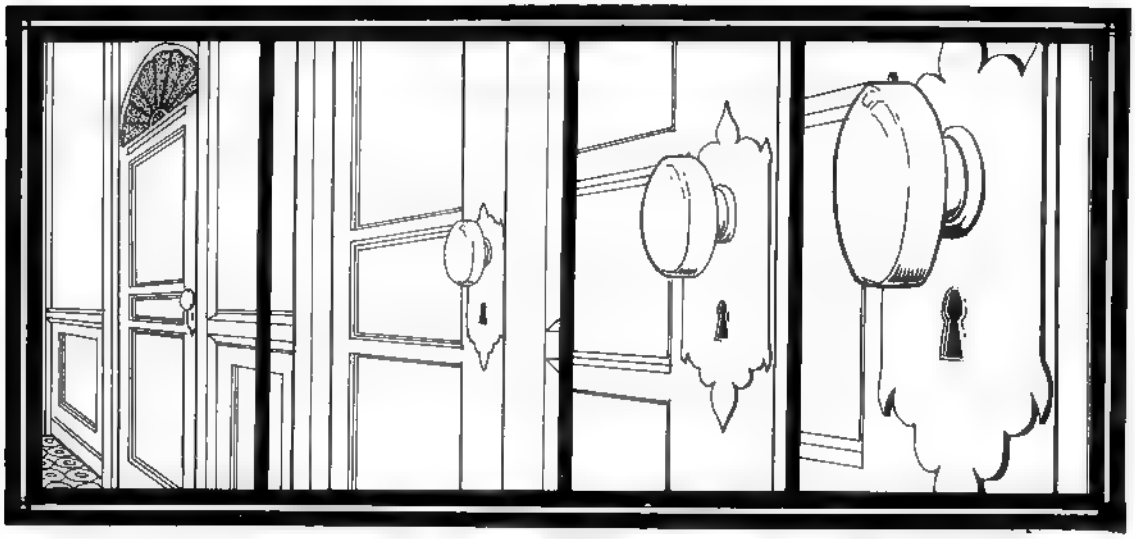
WONDERFUL! SEE? IT'S OKAY FOR YOU TO LEAVE!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
BAG DO NA HODEL
YOU CAN'T!!
BOST HOLY CA'D GO BAG DO NA HODEL?
OF COURSE YOU CAN
BUT YOU SHOULDN'T
WHY?
I JUST TOLD YOU
TARIM

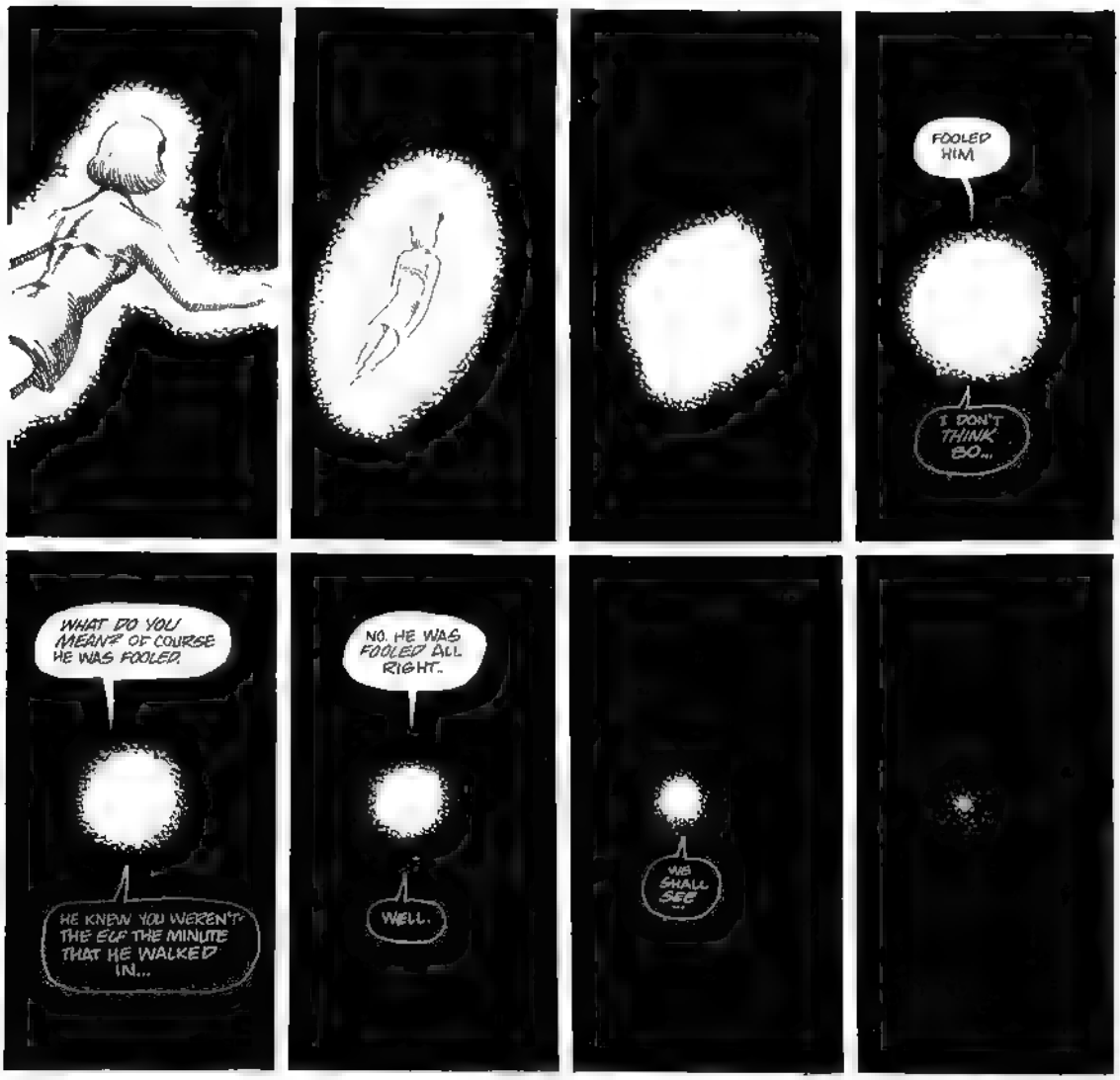

WHAD DID YOU DELL BOST HOLY?
THAD DOES'D BAKE SEDSE
IT'S TRUE!
IT'S TRUE!
IT'S TRUE!
IT'S TRUE!
IT'S TRUE!
IT'S TRUE!
UMMM..

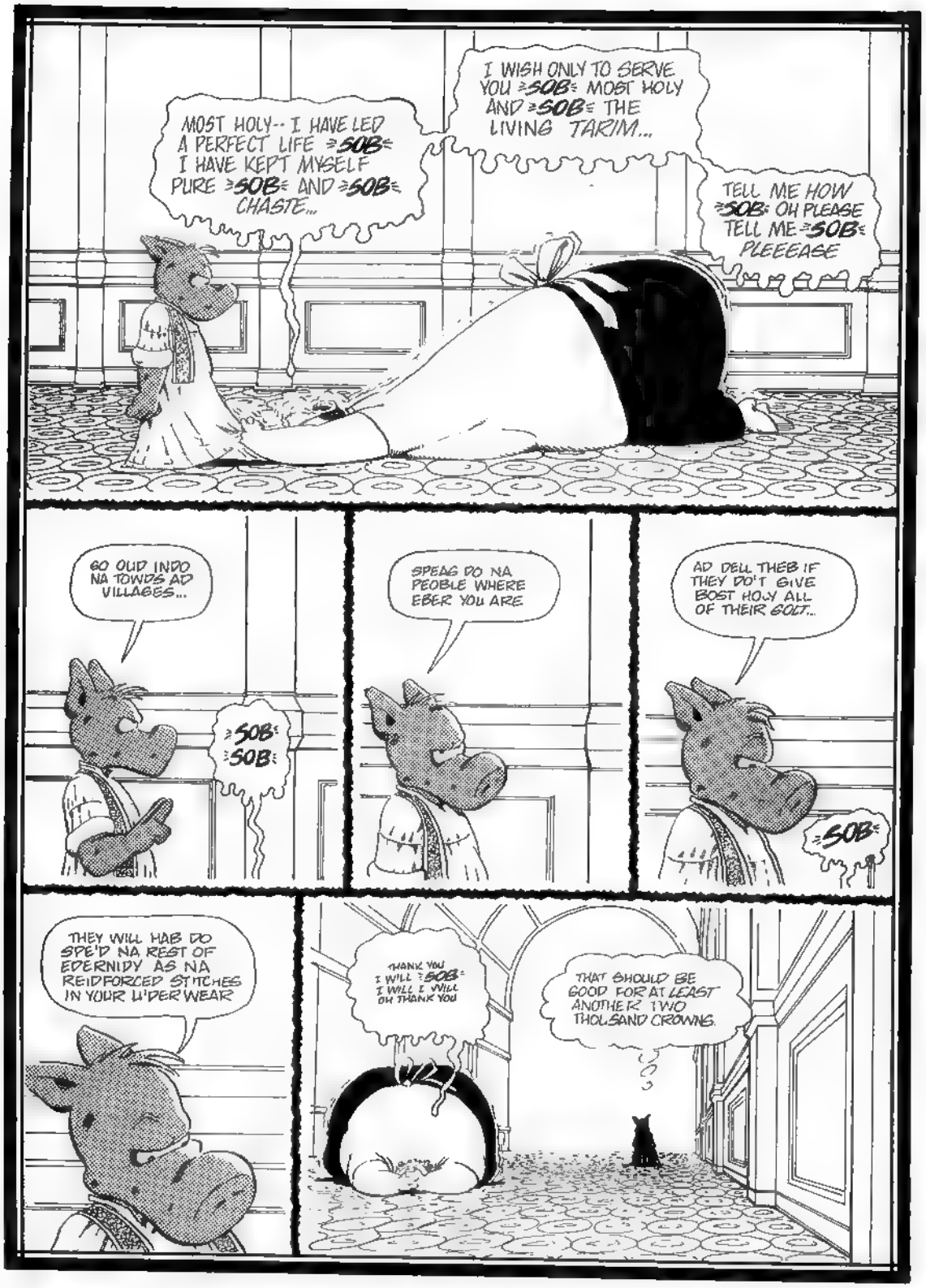
OKAY YOU'RE THE POPE, RIGHT?
RIGHD
AND THE POPE IS PERFECT, RIGHT?
RIGHD
SO ANYTHING THAT THE POPE SAYS IS GOING TO HAPPEN IS GOING TO HAPPEN RIGHT?
RIGHD
AND YOU'VE SAID THAT THE WORLD WILL END IF YOU DON'T GET ALL OF THE GOLD COINS IN IEST, RIGHT?
RIGHD
WELL, SOME OF THE GOLD COINS ARE BURIED UNDER TONS OF ROCK..
SO?
OH
YOU BEAN IB BOST HOLY DOGS'D GED ALL NA
FIVE DAYS FROB DOW
NA WHOLE WORLT


SDARDING WID ALL UB NA DOSDRIL HAIRS?
UH-HUH
BOST HOLY WILL DUST HAB DO DELL EVERYWOD HE WAD BAKING A JOGE...
THAT WOULD WORK


OOAY...
THAD'S WHAD BOST HOLY WILL DO, THED
YOU SHOULD COME BACK WHEN THE WEATHER GETS WARMER AGAIN SO WE CAN PLAY WICKETS...
YEAH
YEAH SURE
CLIK.




FOOLED HIM
I DON'T THINK SO...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN? OF COURSE HE WAS FOOLED.
HE KNEW YOU WEREN'T THE EGG THE MINUTE THAT HE WALKED IN...
NO. HE WAS FOOLED ALL RIGHT.
WELL.
WE SHALL SEE...


MOST HOLY-- I HAVE LED A PERFECT LIFE SOB I HAVE KEPT MYSELF PURE SOB AND SOB CHASTE...
I WISH ONLY TO SERVE YOU SOB MOST HOLY AND SOB THE LIVING TARIM...
TELL ME HOW SOB OH PLEASE TELL ME SOB PLEEEASE
GO OUD INDO NA TOWDS AD VILLAGES...
SOB SOB
SPEAG DO NA PEOBLE WHERE EBER YOU ARE
AD DELL THEB IF THEY DO'T GIVE BOST HOLY ALL OF THEIR GOLT...
SOB
THEY WILL HAB DO SPE'D NA REST OF EDERNIDY AS NA REIDFORCED STITCHES IN YOUR U'DER WEAR
THANK YOU I WILL SOB I WILL I WILL OH THANK YOU
THAT SHOULD BE GOOD FOR AT LEAST ANOTHER TWO THOUSAND CROWNS.

NEXT: HOVERING BELOW THE FRAY

make cheques payable to

90 queen street south

now and then books

kitchener · ontario · n2g 1w1

(519) 744-5571

RETAIL AND WHOLESALE

Back Issues

Cerebus No. 28	$2.00 each
Cerebus No. 32-68	$2.00 each
Journey No. 2-14	$2.00 each
Mirlad No. 5-6	$2.00 each
Neil No. 1-10	$2.00 each
normalman No. 1-6	$2.00 each
Flaming Carrot No. 1-4	$2.00 each
(Eclipse) Ms. Tree 1-9	$2.00 each
Ms. Tree No. 10-14	$2.00 each
Strange Brew	$3.50 each

75¢ postage per book

Swords of Cerebus Vol. 1-6 - $5.00 each plus 75¢ post. & hand.
Files of Ms. Tree Vol. 1 - $5.00 each plus 75¢ post. & hand.
F.O.O.G. Portfolio - $7.00 plus $1.00 post. & hand.
Animated Cerebus Portfolio - $12.00 plus $1.50 post. & hand.
Oktoberfest (Sim & Gene Day) - 75¢ plus 75¢ post. & hand.

Subscriptions (Cerebus, Journey and Ms. Tree)

12 issues for $26.00 in Canada. $29.00 in U.S. or Foreign (includes all postage) wrapped securely and mailed flat. Indicate which issue subscription starts with. Air mail subscriptions now available for outside North America. $44.00 for one year subscription

The Official CEREBUS TOY

(sword not included)

Send $15.00 & $4.25 for postage to Now & Then Books

Original Artwork

$4.00 postage and handling per page

(Pages Available) — list alternates

$50 per page

No. 2 pgs. 11, 20, 22
No. 3 pgs. 7, 18
No. 5 pgs. 5, 10, 16
No. 8 pg. 15
No. 10 pgs. 9, 12, 13, 14, 18
No. 11 pgs. 2, 17, 21
No. 13 pgs. 3, 6, 8, 9, 10
No. 15 pg. 7
No. 16 pgs. 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 18
No. 17 pgs. 7, 8, 10, 12
No. 18 pgs. 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 13, 15, 20
No. 19 pgs. 3, 4, 5, 6
No. 20 pg. 1
No. 21 pgs. 9, 12, 20
No. 22 pgs. 5, 11, 13, 15
No. 23 pgs. 14, 19
No. 25 pgs. 7, 9, 10, 14
No. 28 pgs. 17, 20
Demonhorn Story (Nucleus) pgs. 3, 4

$100 per page

No. 30 pg. 2
No. 31 pg. 15
No. 32 pg. 8
No. 34 pgs. 2, 6
No. 35 pg. 5
No. 37 pg. 15
No. 38 pgs. 15, 16
No. 39 pg. 16
No. 40 pgs. 8, 9, 18, 19, 20
No. 41, pg. 14
No. 44 pgs. 8
No. 46 pg. 19

Subscriptions

(Neil the Horse, Flaming Carrot & normalman)

6 issues for

$14.50 for Canadian, US and Foreign

Single copies available too.

*PLEASE ALLOW 4 TO 6 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY

$2.95

+ 75¢ postage and handling

diamondback*

*Limited amount available - out of print

Posters

$2.50 EACH
4 colour 1977
75¢ postage and handling

$1.00 EACH
75¢ postage & handling

A UNIQUE STORY

IVOR WYNNE— MILLIONAIRE-ART COLLECTOR.
THE JADE PRINCESS - STOLEN!
HOBBS— SUBSTITUTE BUTLER, THIEF — DEAD!
MRS WYNNE— DISTRAUGHT!
SIMMONS— THE REGULAR BUTLER.
ARTHUR TAYLOR— MILLIONAIRE ART COLLECTOR — DEAD!
INSPECTOR HENDERSON— HOMICIDE DIVISION.
HUGH LANSDOWNE— PLAYBOY, ART COLLECTOR.
GLORIA NAGORSKI— MALLET'S ASSISTANT.
DICK MALLET— DETECTIVE!

DICK MALLET in
"THE JADE PRINCESS"
CHAPTER III
"EARLY MORNING... I'D DOZED AT MY DESK ALL NIGHT! DOZED, BUT NOT SLEPT - NOT LAST NIGHT, OR THE NIGHT BEFORE— IN FACT, NOT SINCE THE UNSETTLING SIGHT OF HOBBS' CORPSE, FOUR DAYS AGO*...
"CORPSES USUALLY DON'T BOTHER ME... BUT PUZZLES SURE AS HELL DO!...
...WITH MY OWN TWO EYES, I'D SEEN THE GUY STEAL 'THE PRINCESS'! YET, THE NEXT DAY I SAW HIS TWO WEEK OLD CORPSE!!
"BUT THOSE RESTLESS NIGHTS HADN'T BEEN ENTIRELY WASTED, I'D FINALLY MADE ALL THE PIECES FIT!...
"I HOPED!
"NOW, I KNEW I WAS RIGHT— THE CALL CONFIRMED IT!...
"...BUT IN THE WORST POSSIBLE WAY!

"SHORTLY...
'MORNING, RICHARD. SORRY I'M LATE, BUT—
NEVER MIND THAT NOW, GLORIA! GET ON THE PHONE TO HENDERSON! TELL HIM TO PICK UP LANSDOWNE AND MEET US AT WYNNE'S, PRONTO!
SURE, RICHARD, BUT—...
DON'T DILLY-DALLY, GLORIA! I'VE GOTTA GO OVER THESE NOTES ONE LAST TIME!

© 1984 by LARRY HANCOCK and MICHAEL CHERKAS.

"BY THE TIME WE ARRIVED AT WYNNE'S ESTATE THE CORONER WAS ALREADY FILLING HENDERSON IN ON HIS PRELIMINARY CONCLUSION...
WYNNE MANOR
...SUFFOCATED, PROBABLY WITH ONE OF HIS PILLOWS... OF COURSE ALL OF THIS WILL HAVE TO BE VERIFIED WITH A FULL AUTOPSY...
I THINK I'VE GOT THIS CASE LICKED, HENDERSON. IF YOU BROUGHT THE WARRANT I SUGGEST YOU GET YOUR BOYS TO SEARCH THE PLACE.
O.K., O'MALLEY YOU'RE LOOKING FOR ANYTHING UNUSUAL—PARTICULARLY IN THE BUTLER'S ROOM! TEAR THE PLACE APART!!
!!
212...
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT... FIRST THE PRINCESS... NOW SIMMONS!
"TEAR THE PLACE APART!" ??
JUST A FIGURE OF SPEECH, M'AM...
"BUT THERE WAS ONE OTHER ROOM THAT I WANTED O'MALLEY TO PAY SPECIAL ATTENTION TO...
PSST... PSST... PSST.
SURE THING!
ALL RIGHT, DICK... I DRAGGED LANSDOWNE OVER HERE ON YOUR SAY SO... SO LET'S HEAR YOUR THEORY!
"I HANDED HENDERSON THE KEY PIECE TO THE PUZZLE...
WHAT'S THIS? A FANCY DRESS PICTURE OF HOBBS— SO WHAT?!
BUT, RICHARD!... I NEVER BROUGHT BACK THAT PICTURE FROM HOBBS' APARTMENT!
LOOK CLOSER— THAT'S SIMMONS UNDERNEATH THE HAIR AND MOUSTACHE THAT I'VE DRAWN IN...
WHY! SO IT IS!!
HOBBS WAS KNOCKED OFF SO THAT SIMMONS COULD TAKE HIS PLACE—AND REPLACE HIMSELF AS BUTLER FOR THE WYNNES!! HIS THEATRICAL TRAINING FROM HIS STUDENT DAYS IN ENGLAND ALLOWED HIM TO FOOL THE WYNNE'S!
BUT WHY THE MASQUERADE ??
SIMMONS DISGUISED HIMSELF AS HOBBS FOR TWO WEEKS SO WE'D ALL BE FAMILIAR WITH HOBBS...
...THE NIGHT OF THE THEFT HE DRUGGED MY COFFEE JUST ENOUGH TO MAKE ME DOZE OFF—NOT KNOCK ME OUT—HE WANTED TO BE SURE I SAW IT WAS HOBBS WHO STOLE THE PRINCESS!!
I STILL DON'T GET IT?!
NO ONE WOULD EVER SUSPECT SIMMONS. THE POLICE WOULD STILL BE [illegible] FOR "HOBBS" IF HIS BODY HADN'T FLOATED TO THE SURFACE OF THE BAY—
THEN SIMMONS KILLED HOBBS?!!
UH... NO. SIMMONS WAS ALSO SET UP TO TAKE A FALL... HOBBS WAS PROBABLY KILLED BY THE SAME PERSON WHO KILLED TAYLOR...
2.

66 ... LANSDOWNE!!
ME?..THAT'S RIDICULOUS!!
LANSDOWNE?!
LANSDOWNE?... BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! HE'S A PROMINENT CITIZEN!!
PROMINENT, YES!! BUT ALSO NEARLY BANKRUPT!!
LANSDOWNE?... HOW COULD HE DO THIS TO ME?...
ALL FAIRY TALES, INSPECTOR!! HOW MUCH MORE OF THIS DRIVEL DO WE —
THERE'S NO SENSE IN DENYING IT!...
...GLORIA HAS RESEARCHED YOU INSIDE AND OUT— YOU'RE BROKE!!
"LANSDOWNE TOOK THE STATUE TO TAYLOR WHO HAD AGREED TO BUY IT—BUT TAYLOR DOUBLECROSSED HIM, OFFERING ONLY A SMALL SUM, RATHER THAN THE AGREED PRICE!
"... IN PANIC LANSDOWNE KILLED HIM!
BUT EVEN IF HE WAS BROKE, I CAN'T BELIEVE LANSDOWNE WOULD KILL FOR MONEY!!
MAYBE NOT FOR MONEY... ...BUT HE'D DO ALMOST ANYTHING FOR...
... LOVE!!
HE'D FALLEN IN LOVE WITH MRS. WYNNE, A WOMAN WHO DEMANDS—AND GETS—ONLY THE BEST... SHE WOULD NEVER LEAVE HER HUSBAND FOR A PENNILESS LANSDOWNE! HE HAD TO RAISE A LOT OF MONEY—FAST!!
UH, VERONICA... ...MAYBE WE SHOULD...
MY POOR PRINCESS!!
SHUT UP, HUGH!! DON'T SAY A WORD! MALLET HAS NO PROOF!!
JUST THEN...
LOOK WHAT I FOUND IN MRS. WYNNE'S ROOM— UNDER THE FRILLIES IN HER DRESSER DRAWER!!
OMIGOD!!
MY PRINCESS!!
GREAT GODFREY!!
MRS. WYNNE'S DRAWERS?! BUT HOW DID IT GET THERE, RICHARD?
ONE OF THE THIEVES HAD TO HOLD ON TO IT... AND WHO BETTER THAN MRS. WYNNE— THE BRAINS BEHIND THIS WHOLE COCKEYED SCHEME!?!
AARGH!!
3

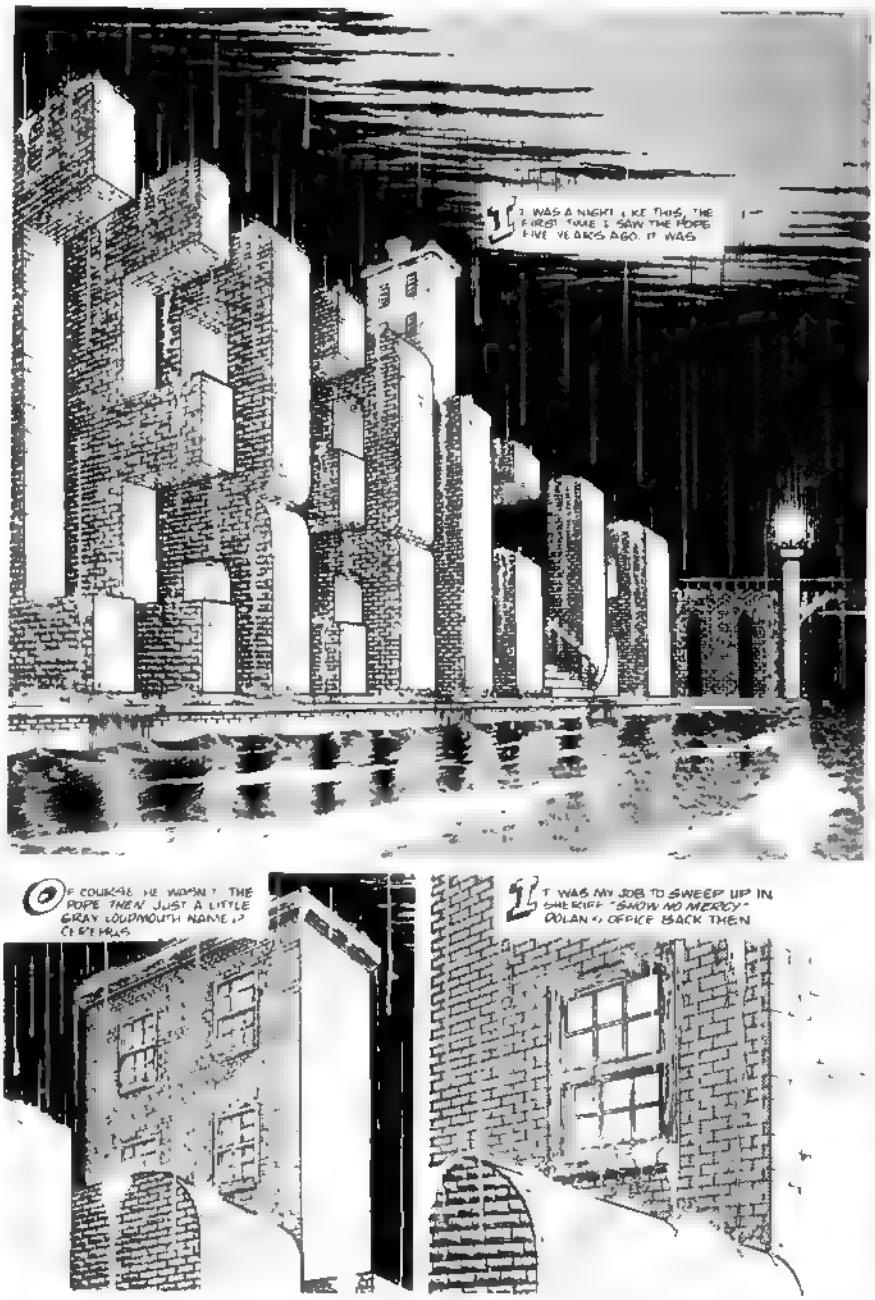
YOU HAVEN'T BEATEN ME YET, MALLET!
KRAK!
"THAT LADY WOULD MAKE A GREAT ROCKETTE — OR PUNTER!
I'VE GOT IT!!
YOU AIN'T GOIN' NOWHERE, LADY!!
TAKE YOUR MITTS OFF ME, MALLET! UNLESS YOU WANT MY FINGERNAILS BEHIND YOUR EYEBALLS!!
"DID I SAY 'LADY'?
NOW, NOW, LANSDOWNE, I DON'T THINK THIS IS A GOOD TIME FOR YOU TO BE TAKING A WALK!
UH-OH!
MODIGLIANI ... JAMES, ...HOME?
"MRS. WYNNE WAS HOPPING MAD BUT SHE FILLED US IN WITH THE REST OF THE DETAILS...
... BETWEEN HIS SPORTS TEAMS AND HIS ADVENTURING, IVOR NEVER HAD TIME FOR MY ATTENTIONS... HUGH MADE ME FEEL ALIVE AGAIN, BUT HE WAS BROKE!...
...IT SEEMED ONLY NATURAL THAT IVOR SHOULD "CONTRIBUTE" TO MY NEWFOUND HAPPINESS — WITH HIS 'LITTLE PRINCESS'!
WHAT ABOUT SIMMONS?!
HE'D ALWAYS HAD A CRUSH ON ME. IT WAS SIMPLE TO CONVINCE HIM TO TAKE PART IN THE SCHEME. HE BELIEVED THAT HE AND I WOULD RUN AWAY TOGETHER...
"... BUT WHEN TAYLOR WAS KILLED, SIMMONS STARTED TO SUSPECT THAT HE WAS BEING USED. LAST NIGHT, I... I SILENCED HIM...
MMMMPH...
WELL ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL CASE FOR YOUR SCRAPBOOK, DICK.
SUCCESSFUL, BUT DEADLY! IF I EVER GET MARRIED AGAIN, REMIND ME TO BUY FLOWERS FOR MY WIFE, EVERY DAY!
AGAIN? RICHARD?
RUTHLESS KILLERS!
MY PRINCESS!!
DON'T BE SUCH A PANSY, HUGH! WE'LL GET SOME GOOD LAWYERS AND BEFORE YOU KNOW IT WE'LL BE BLAH BLAHBLAHBLAH BLAH BLAH!...
THE END

STORY: LARRY HANCOCK /ART: MICHAEL CHERKAS.

AARDVARK-VANAHEIM PRESENTS

CEREBUS JAM

1 FEB


IT WAS A NIGHT LIKE THIS, THE FIRST TIME I SAW THE POPE FIVE YEARS AGO. IT WAS
OF COURSE HE WASN'T THE POPE THEN! JUST A LITTLE GRAY LOUDMOUTH NAMED CEREBUS.
IT WAS MY JOB TO SWEEP UP IN SHERIFF "SNOW NO MERCY" DOLAN'S OFFICE BACK THEN.

Splash Page By Dave Sim And Gerhard
The Spirit TM and © 1985 Will Eisner

"CEREBUS MEETS THE SPIRIT"

AARDVARK-VANAHEIM t shirts from GRAPHITTI DESIGNS

CEREBUS
DICTATOR
Neil the Horse
Making the World Safe for Mindless Comedy
THIS AH SAY-THIS IS THE OFFICIAL ELROD THE ALBINO T-SHIRT!
the Adventures of Wolverine Mc Klaine
TREE
WELL SOME OF US LOOKS BETTER IN DESE @☆*-@#%&! T-SHIRTS DAN OTHERS!
ARNI SABA 1984

- FINEST QUALITY 100% COTTON SHIRT
- SCREEN PRINTED (NOT TRANSFERS!)

$9.95 (POSTAGE AND HANDLING INCLUDED)

NOW AVAILABLE THROUGH DISTRIBUTORS AND COMIC SHOPS EVERYWHERE.... OR USE THE HANDY ORDER FORM BELOW.

MAKE PAYABLE TO:

Graphitti T.M. DESIGNS

515 W. VALENCIA DR. • UNIT E
FULLERTON, CALIF. 92632

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

QUANTITY				TOTAL
	CEREBUS T-SHIRT	S-M-L-XL	$9.95	
	ELROD T-SHIRT	S-M-L-XL	$9.95	
	JOURNEY T-SHIRT	S-M-L-XL	$9.95	
	MS. TREE T-SHIRT	S-M-L-XL	$9.95	
	NEIL THE HORSE T-SHIRT	S-M-L-XL	$9.95	
	normalman T-SHIRT	S-M-L-XL	$9.95	
			CA RESIDENTS ADD 6% SALES TAX	
			TOTAL	

MONEY ORDER REQUESTS FILLED WITHIN 24 HOURS. PLEASE ALLOW 2 WEEKS FOR PERSONAL CHECKS TO CLEAR. CANADA: ADD $1.00 EXTRA FOR POSTAGE. FOREIGN: ADD $2.00 EXTRA FOR POSTAGE

JOIN THE CELEBRATION!

Jaime and Gilbert Hernandez invite you to join them for the gala 10th issue of . . .

LOVE AND ROCKETS™

48 all-new pages—featuring Maggie, Hopey, the Heartbreak Soup crew, and more! On sale for Christmas '85!

PLUS: A SIXTEEN-PAGE PORTFOLIO FROM LOS BROS.' SKETCHBOOKS!

Send me the Gala 10th issue of LOVE AND ROCKETS! I'm over 18 years of age and I've enclosed $3.25. (Outside U.S., $4.00, in U.S. funds, please.)

LOVE AND ROCKETS looks like my kind of comic! Begin my six-issue subscription with L&R #10—I've enclosed $9.00. (Outside U.S., $12.00 in U.S. funds, please!

name

address

city state zip

Send to: LOVE AND ROCKETS, 707 Camino Manzanas, Thousand Oaks CA 91360. Please allow six to eight weeks for delivery.

FANTAGRAPHICS BOOKS

AARDVARK COMMENT

P.O. BOX 1674, STATION "C", KITCHENER, ONTARIO N2G 4R2

Dear Dave,

Twenty-Two Years. "The Moon Roach/Astoria drawing above was inked by Donald Simpson (of Megaton Man Fame) a full twenty-two years before I pencilled it!" Where did you learn to subtract? Where did you learn to tell a joke? But, what can be expected from a cartoonist with less than half a last name?

Use your head, Dave. If I had inked your picture a full twelve years before you pencilled it, that would have made me only 47 years of age, still mired in post-impressionism, and you having yet to invent cubism! (That would have been interesting – inking over burnt nostril hair charcoal with ivory black house paint and a palette knife – but it just wasn't meant to be). Besides, it's a well-established fact that I was in Borneo that whole century.

In any event, let me do a Cerebus Jam. I'll provide lettering and artwork before this millenium expires, and you can send a full script a couple decades later.

Best,

Don Simpson
651 W Forest #2,
Detroit, MI, 48201

Okay, Don. How about if you pencil a five page Moon Roach adventure? I'll write it, pencil it and ink it when it gets here and Gerhard will do the backgrounds.

1962 is twenty-two years ago? Christ, that makes me almost thirty years old. Are you sure? 1984 minus 1962. Two away from four is two. Six away from eight is two. Nine from nine is zero. One away from one is.... Son of a bitch. You're right.

****

Sim,

What the hell is this? I never inked anybody 12 years before they pencilled it, let alone 22! I'm a strong believer in collaboration, but no, no one will let me ink them! You've given me the reputation of an ego-crazed maniac, who won't permit a penciller first crack at a sheet of paper! I should know, as I just turned 23!

You've gone too far this time, Sim. I can't work under these conditions. We're through. I'm suing you for $22 million dollars for the irreparable damage you've caused me. Let's continue this feud in "Blood and Thunder".

Sincerely,

Don Simpson
Same as above

I'd drop the lawsuit if I were you or I'll tell everyone how you offered me your girl-friend for the weekend if I let you do a Jam Story. This is no idle threat. Right now it's just a secret between you, me, and twenty-thousand Cerebus fans. Tomorrow it could be on the front page of the Comics Buyers Guide. I have connections.

****

Dear Dave,

See? Now you have a reputation!

I'm refering, of course, to Mrs. Gardenia Jaffrey's letter in #68: "You are a disgusting example of our times!" Dave, you have arrived! I'm so proud of you, I could hemmorrage internally.

Now, we who are your Fairly Loyal Fans **always** knew you were a disgusting example of our **something** – we just couldn't think of **what**. Derek McC thought you might be "a disgusting example of Peaches and Herb." And little Janet McG. suggested that you bloody well could be "a disgusting example of over a dozen assorted decorator colours." I was happy just to know you were disgusting.

But now this jet-black cloud of inky confusion has been forever lifted! ". . . of our times" . . . **of course!** It was so obvious, only a moron could nail it down! (So why couldn't I do so? I have all the neccessary requirements.)

Dave (my son), I hope you'll use your newfound rep **sparingly**. The worst thing you could do would be to openly flaunt your Disgusting Exampleness. You've been given a great gift and you mustn't abuse it. (I could probably think of a penis analogy if I wanted to). Your readers now **know** how disgusting you are. You don't have to prove it.

I think you'll receive official notification of your new status in the mail soon. The whole thing is handled by the people in charge of the Reader's Digest Sweepstakes. (So if you see Ed McMahon's car parked in your driveway, don't panic.) Oh — there'll be a TV special, too (the filming of the presentation dinner). You'd better rent a cheap tux.

Think of your children!

Mike Bannon
2453 Martin Drive,
Dubuque, IOWA 52001

NBC cancelled the agreement to televise the presentation dinner when I flipped my Disgusting Exampleness out and used it as a swizzle stick. Oh well, I still have the plaque and the Samsonite luggage.

****

Dear Dave,

Did you ever read Atlas Shrugged?

Just curious.

Fred Sanders
Rt 9, Box 256,
Marion, KY., 42064

No, but you're probably the hundredth person to ask me that question. Why don't you send me a copy? I probably won't read it, I just like it when people send me free stuff.

****

Dear Dave:

Whooda thunk it? I never would've believed that Weisshaupt would take such a direct approach in his craving for Cerebus' gold (Cerebus #68).

Will Cerebus use his power as the Pope to get Weisshaupt off his back? Will Cerebus call his bluff? Will Cerebus give Weisshaupt all of his gold without à fuss? (ha!) Will I ever stop with all of these stupid questions, especially since most of them will probably be answered in the next issue anyway?

Moving on, we come the controversy regarding Gerhard, or what I like to call Gerhardgate. Just how much of the art is this mysterious individual doing? Is it merely the backgrounds, or is he slowly taking over the entire book? It's not that I'm complaining or anything. If having Gerhard around frees you to work on other stuff (like the forthcoming Cerebus Jam), that's OK by me. But I would like to know who is doing what and where. For example, who did page 6

of Cerebus #65 (the splash page of Cerebus' hotel with no dialogue)?

Speaking of Cerebus Jam (and I was, just a couple of sentences ago), what can we expect to see in this new bi-monthly publication? Is CJ (my nickname for it) going to fit into the ongoing Cerebus plot, or are you planning to feature some of the Earth-Pig's untold adventures instead?

Yours, of course,

Conrad P. Felber
1319 Rose Marie Avenue,
Sudbury, Ontario

I lay out the pages, draw and ink the characters and either indicate verbally or in pencil what Gerhard is supposed to do. Sometimes I get him to change something he's done, but most times there aren't any problems. On the page in question, I roughed in the hotel and the mountain and pencilled and inked the figures in the foreground. Gerhard just followed the line technique that I used and finished it off.

On CJ (your personal nickname for it) the emphasis will be on untold stories with occasional Cerebus the Prime Minister, Pope, Kitchen Staff Supervisor etc. stories from the continuity developed since #1.

CJ #1 will feature Cerebus age eight ("Squinteye the Sailor" with Terry Austin), Cerebus age twenty with Bear ("The First Invention of Armour" with Murphy Anderson) and Cerebus meeting the Spirit at age eighteen (untitled with Will Eisner).

****

Dear Dave,
You gotta help me! I have a serious problem and I don't know who to turn to.

It all happened about two weeks ago. I had just received issue #29 (which completed my collection of the whole Cerebus story). After reading said issue I felt a new type of contentment inside myself.

Anyway, the next day, after reading the complete story, I got out of bed (so far so good) and went to brush my teeth. The bathroom mirror seemed higher than I remembered it. I had a little trouble brushing because there was a snout between my toothbrush and my teeth. I couldn't believe it. "It must have been the whiskey from last night", I kept telling myself. I decided to take a shower - that would wake me up.

Well, the shower just about convinced me that I was . . . . transforming. How, you may ask? For one thing, I had to take a running jump at the side of the bathrub to get into and out of it. And secondly, that was the first shower I had ever taken in my life where I smelled better before I had taken it than when I finished it.

It seemed like my world was falling apart all around me. After I dried myself off I got an impression that my ears had grown also - after the second box of Q-tips it became obvious.

I walked into the kitchen and, after the smelling salt, my girlfriend (Red Patty - I renamed her) finally accepted the reality. After our morning - I say - after our morning coffee she told me to leave for work or I would be late - again. I told her I didn't feel like going to work. Later (after she went to work - I went down to the "Blue Duck" and treated myself to an ale and a few hours of Diamondback.

So you see Dave, I would be lost without you and Cerebus. Keep up the excellent, first class work . . . . .

John Spanakis
1624 Cormorant Street,
Nanaimo, B.C.
V9S 2V1

So what's the serious problem?

****

Dear Dave,

Well, I suppose everybody's already suggested "On" as a last name for Gerhard, so how about "Daysnight," in honor of that pre-fad four moptop lads from wherever it was they were from?

No, that's okay . . . . . I was looking back over that sentence to see if it made sense, but it's even more lucid than I first thought (thank Tarim!).

Coping with the holidays quite nicely, thank you.

Stan Timmons
3604 Valdez Drive,
Lafayette, IN., 47905

"On"? Man, that's sick. That's really sick. I almost didn't print your letter that was so sick. But Ger liked it so what the hell.

To: David Sim

From: Maple, Maple, Robinette, Maple, Maple, Maple, Greenspan, Bailey, Maple, Maple, Maple, Maple, and Darrow

Subject: "Cerebus the Aardvark" (November, 1984, #68) letters section.

Dear Mr. Sim,

We represent the Toronto Sun newspaper and we would like to bring to your attention a serious matter concerning the above specified letters section. In this letters section, you say that you will "answer all of the letters Toronto Sun-Style." and then proceed to do just that. Thus, you have intentionally and explicitly copied the letter-answering style of our client, the Toronto Sun. This is a clear violation of their copyright of that style, and such violation leaves you open to prosecution (and, most assuredly, to conviction).

However, our client feels that there is a possibility that you may have been under the not uncommon misapprehension that the fact that the Sun's letter-answering style has not been copied is due merely to so-called journalistic taste, rather than due to legal considerations. Thus, our client, while making no comment as to your guilt or innocence, is willing to forego prosecution for your actions provided that you never do it again, and

(1) You publish a full retraction and apology in an upcoming issue of "Cerebus the Aardvark" or

(2) You pose for a "Sunshine Boy" photograph in a low-rize swimming brief.

Incidentally, your implication that the Sun is limited to "Southern Ontario" is incorrect. The Sun publishing empire stretches west to Alberta and south to Texas (though admittedly with no stops in between).

Our client asks us to say the following. "If we dumped Peter Worthington, do you think we will show you any mercy?!" Of course, this is said in a nonjudgemental way and entirely without malice.

We trust that this will be acceptable to you and sufficient to clear up this matter. We must warn you, however, that a refusal of our proposal or any further infractions by you against the Sun will result in immediate (and ultimately very damaging and exceedingly costly) court action, along with, no doubt, several rather lurid and embarrassing front page stories, complete with many very damaging photographs.

Yours truly,

"C.K. 'Maximum Dollar' Maple"
for M.M.R.M.M.G.B.M.M.M.M.&D.
Box 1272, Stn 'B'
Weston, Ontario M9L 2R9

Low-rize swimming brief? And let all of Southern Ontario, Alberta and Texas see my Disgusting Exampleness? Forget it. Besides the photos you sent are fakes. Look at the shadow on the rubber mask the doberman is wearing and compare it to the shadows on the water pistol and the spiked heel shoes. It's Lee-Harvey-Oswald-in-his-back-yard all over again, man.

Comics Buyer's Guide
Fan Awards for 1984

Vote for your favorite in each category:

1. Favorite Editor .....

2. Favorite Writer .....

3. Favorite Artist .....

4. Favorite Cover .....

5. Favorite Comic Book .....

6. Favorite Story .....

7. Favorite Book* .....

8. Favorite Character .....

9. Favorite Supporting Character .....

10. Favorite Publication about Comics .....

11. Favorite Writer about Comics .....

12. Favorite Fan Artist .....

Phil Seuling Award for Favorite Direct-Sale-Only Title .....

**"Favorite Book" can include your favorite graphic novel, favorite reprint collection, favorite book about comics, etc. — with a copyright date of 1984.*

Only material cover-dated 1984 is eligible for consideration.

Anyone may copy and circulate this ballot, and any fan may vote only once and vote for no more than one nominee in each category. Ballot-box stuffing will result in the destruction of all ballots involved. You need not vote in all categories. ***The Comics Buyer's Guide*** *is not eligible for Category 10.*

A free copy of ***The Comics Buyer's Guide*** *#600 (which will carry the results of voting) will be sent to any voter who does not already have a current or expired subscription to* ***CBG****.*

Mail your ballot individually in a single envelope by April 13, 1985 to:

The Comics Buyer's Guide *Fan Awards*
700 East State Street
Iola, Wisconsin 54990

Name ..... **Age** .....**Male** **Female** *(circle one)*

Street or Box .....

City, State, and ZIP .....

Please type or print your vote and information clearly.

AARDVARK-VANAHEIM PRESENTS

STILL AVAILABLE

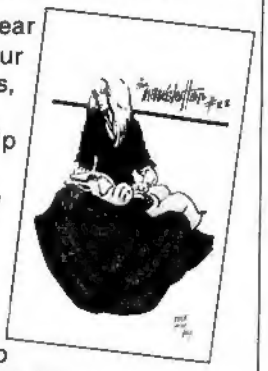
Special 24 page 3-D sampler
Contains six four-page stories, by each of the A-V artists!!

Separations by Ray Zone
Art by Sim, Saba, Loebs, Valentino, Burden and Beatty/Collins.

CEREBUS FAN CLUB

$10.00 per year includes four newsletters, bonuses, membership card certificate and more!

Make Cheques Payable To "Cerebus Fan Club"



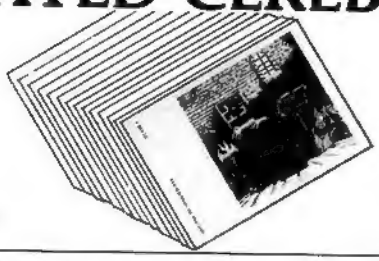
SUBSCRIPTIONS

CEREBUS, JOURNEY and Ms. TREE (12 Issues)
1st Class Only
$33 (U.S.) $40 (Canadian)

NEIL, NORMALMAN, FLAMING CARROT (6 Issues)
1st Class Only
$16.50 (U.S.) $20 (Canadian)

THE ANIMATED CEREBUS portfolio

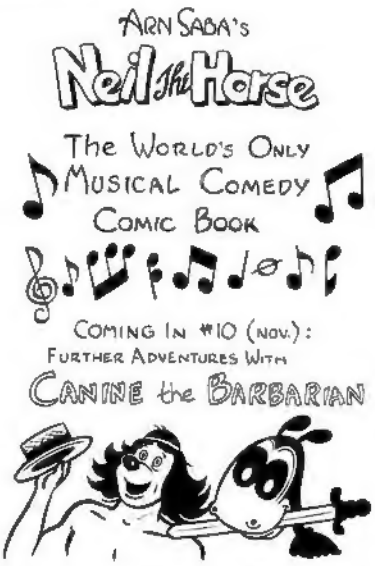
forty five plates featuring three individual stories.
Unlimited signed edition $12.00 ea.
Signed and numbered edition featuring an original drawing of Cerebus to your specifications $100.00 ea



- HIS FIRST SWORD
- A WELL-EQUIPPED BAR
- ADD ONE MUMMIFIED BAT

BACK ISSUES AVAILABLE Add .75 postage per book

CEREBUS 28, 29, 32, 33 - $2.00 each
CEREBUS 40-46, 48-51, 53, 54, 56-66 - $1.50 each
JOURNEY 2, 4-14 - $1.50 each
NEIL 1-9 - $1.50 each
FLAMING CARROT 1-3 - $1.50 each
Ms TREE 10-12 - $1.50 each
normalman 1-5 - $2.00 each
STRANGE BREW - $1.50 each



SEND TO:

AARDVARK-VANAHEIM INC.

BOX 1674 STATION "C" KITCHENER, ONTARIO CANADA N2G 4R2

MICHAEL MOORCOCK'S

Elric™

THE SAILOR ON THE SEAS OF FATE

SEVEN PART DELUXE LIMITED SERIES

ROY THOMAS . MICHAEL T. GILBERT . GEORGE FREEMAN

ISSUE #1 ON SALE IN FEBRUARY

THE FIRST CHOICE KEEPS GETTING BETTER!

FIRST® COMICS

COUNT ON US.

TM & © 1985 FIRST COMICS, INC.